



Abstract

This Final Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation (FEIS) for the Purple Line project describes and summarizes the transportation and environmental impacts of implementing a new east-west light rail transit service in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, Maryland. The Purple Line project is proposed to:

- Provide faster, more direct, and more reliable east-west transit service connecting the major activity centers in the Purple Line corridor at Bethesda, Silver Spring, Takoma/Langley Park, College Park, and New Carrollton
- Provide better connections to Metrorail services located in the corridor
- Improve connectivity to the communities located between the Metrorail lines

The Purple Line would extend between the Bethesda Metrorail station in Montgomery County and the New Carrollton Metrorail/MARC/Amtrak station in Prince George's County. The "Purple Line corridor" includes a western terminus in Bethesda, an eastern terminus in New Carrollton, and the following major activity centers located between those termini: Silver Spring, Takoma/Langley Park, and College Park. The corridor is 16.2 miles in length.

This FEIS includes a description of the alternatives, as well as a comparative evaluation of the No Build Alternative and the Preferred Alternative benefits and effects. These alternatives were analyzed for both long-term (operational) and short-term (construction-related) impacts to public transportation; highways and roadways; pedestrian and bicycle facilities; parking facilities; delivery and service access; freight and passenger railroad operations and facilities; safety and security; land use, zoning, and public policy; neighborhoods and community facilities; property acquisition and displacements; economic activity; parks, recreational land, and open space; historic resources, archeological resources, and visual resources; air quality; noise; vibration; habitat and wildlife; water resources; topography, geology and soils; hazardous materials; utilities; energy use; environmental justice; construction; Section 4(f) resources; indirect and cumulative effects; and irreversible and irretrievable resources. Measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts are identified.

For additional information concerning this document, contact:

Daniel Koenig
Federal Transit Administration
1990 K Street, NW, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20006-1178
202-219-3528

Henry Kay
Maryland Transit Administration
100 South Charles Street
Tower 2, Suite 700
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-685-2601

This FEIS is available for viewing on the project website, located at www.purplelinemd.com, and is available at public libraries throughout the project corridor. A 30-day review period has been established for this document, beginning on the publication date of this FEIS. Comments may be submitted in writing to Henry Kay at the address above, via e-mail at outreach@purplelinemd.com, or through the project website. The date of the comment deadline is posted on the project website.

Document Availability

Printed copies of the FEIS are available for public review at the following locations:

- Bethesda Library
- Bladensburg Library
- Chevy Chase Library
- Greenbelt Library
- Hyattsville Library
- Long Branch Library
- Maryland Department of Legislative Services Library
- Maryland State Archives
- Maryland State Law Library
- M-NCPPC–Montgomery County
- M-NCPPC–Prince George’s County
- New Carrollton Library
- Silver Spring Library
- Silver Spring Regional Services Center
- State Library Resource Center
- Takoma Park Maryland Library
- University of Maryland Library

The Technical Reports are available for public review (upon request) at the MTA-TDD offices located at 100 S. Charles St, Tower 2, Suite 700, Baltimore, MD 21202, or via the project website at www.purplelinemd.com. Any person with special needs, such as English language assistance or Braille, should contact MTA for assistance.

Printed copies of the Technical Reports can also be viewed at:

- M-NCPPC–Montgomery County
- M-NCPPC–Prince George’s County
- Silver Spring Regional Services Center